

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BANGUI 01365 051337Z

42

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 EA-06 EB-07 COME-00 CIEP-01 OMB-01

ACDA-05 MC-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-01 /099 W

----- 090233

R 051130Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5292

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGUI 1365

1. DECEMBER 1, CELEBRATION OF SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF PROCLAMATION OF CAR WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY TWO SIGNIFICANT SPEECHES BY PRESIDENT BOKASSA. IN IMPROMPTU SPEECH AT OPENING OF NATIONALIST CHINESE CONSUMER GOODS EXHIBITION ON NOVEMBER 30, HE PRAISED COUNTRIES SUCH AS CHINA, US, RUSSIA, YUGOSLAVIA AND ROMANIA FOR GIVING AID IN DEMONSTRABLE, CONCRETE FORM (HE INADVERTENTLY OMITTED FRG). RE US, HE MENTIONED PARTICULARLY DISPENSARIES BUILT WITH SELF-HELP FUNDS. PRESIDENT THEN GAVE SPECIAL PRAISE TO FRANCE FOR TAKING LEAD IN RAILROAD CONTRUCTION AND CALLED ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED IN BANGUI SUCH AS UN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND TO SUPPORT FRENCH LEAD IN FINANCING RAILROAD. (HIS REMARKS ON ETHIOPIAN SITUATION REPORTED SEPTTEL)

2. IN SECOND SPEECH BOAKSSA DWELT ON NEW CAR-FRENCH RELATIONSHIP WHICH HE SAID EMANATED FROM HIS PERSONAL DIPLOMACY IN FRANC SEPTEMBE 15-NOVEMBER 9 AND MEETINGS WITH QUOTE MY PARENT AND GREAT FRIEND UNQUOTE PRESIDENT VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING. HE HEAPED PRAISE ON FRANCE, PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING AND THE SPECIAL GOF PREPRESENTATIVE AT CELEBRATION, INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION MINISTER ABELIN, FOR AVOWED WILLINGNESS ASSIST CAR IN NATIONAL GOAL FREE ITSELF

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BANGUI 01365 051337Z

FROM GEOGRAPHIC ISOLATION BY CONSTRUCTION OF RAILROAD.

BOKASSA SAID CAR IS AND WILL REMAIN STEADFAST FRIEND OF FRANCE. HE AFFIRMED THAT PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING WOULD VISIT CAR IN MARCH OR APRIL. ABELIN RESPONDED BY CALLING BOKASSA NOT ONLY A VALIANT AFRICAN LEADER, BUT QUOTE AN EXCELLENT FRENCHMAN UNQUOTE.

3. EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER CURRENT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION AND IN PARTICULAR PETROLEUM PRICE INCREASES, BOASSA LAUNCHED INTO MOST POLITICAL AND MOST OBSCURE PASSAGE OF SPEECH. HE REFERRED TO "THOSE WHO FISH IN TROUBLED WATERS IN EFFORT TAKE ADVANTAGE WRONGLY OF SUCH CRISIS TO EXERCISE PRESSURE ON SMALL COUNTRIES WHICH THEY CONSIDER DFWENSELESS." THESE PRESSURES CONSTITUTE REAL THREAT FOR SECURITY OF SMALL STATES. BOKASSA SOUNDED A "SOLEMN WARNING" TO ANY WHO MIGHT BE SO TEMPTED AND THREATENED TO "BEAT WITHOUT PITY WITH MY MARSHALL'S SWORD ALL WHO FAIL TO HEED THIS WARNING". BOKASSA ALSO DENOUNCED "THOSE WHO PREACH THE POWER OF THEIR POLITICAL PARTY." SUCH IDEOLOGIES HAVE NO PLACE IN CAR HE SAID AND THESE PERSONS SHOULD LEAVE. BOKASSA SAID CAR SEEKS GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH ALL WHO CHERISH JUSTICE AND PEACE. HOWEVER, CERTAIN "ENCROACHING FRIENDSHIPS WHICH EXPRESS THEMSELVES ONLY IN PROPAGANDA AND OTHER TENDENTIOUS MANIFESTATIONS" CANNOT BE PERMITTED. BOKASSA CONCLUDED THAT CAR WANTS SINCERE, LOYAL RELATIONS SUCH AS THOSE BETWEEN CAR AND FRANCE.

4. DRAMATIC NOTE TO OTHERWISE STANDARD FOUR-HOUR PARADE DECEMBER 1 WAS UNVEILING SEVENTY NEW SOVIET MILITARY TRUCKS WHICH HAD ARRIVED BY ROAD FROM DOUALA ONLY TWO DAYS BEFORE. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF THIS LATEST SOVIET CONTRIBUTION ALTHOUGH THEIR ARRIVAL HAD BEEN COMMON KNOWLEDGE IN BANGUI PRIOR TO PARADE.

5. COMMENT: PRAISE CURRENTLY ACCORDED FRENCH REPRESENTS GRATITUDE IN ADVANCE FOR ANTICIPATED FRENCH PERFORMANCE REGARDING RAILROAD. IF STUDIES INDICATE RAILROAD PROJECT WORTHWHILE, WE EXPECT FRENCH AS WELL AS BOKASSA WILL EXERT GREATLY INCREASED PRESSURE FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM ALL POSSIBLE SOURCES. COMMENTS REGARDING INTERNATIONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BANGUI 01365 051337Z

ORGANIZATIONS PARA 1 ABOVE ARE HARBINGERS OF WHAT TO EXPECT. SPECULATION IN DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY ON MEANING BOKASSA'S REMARKS ON FISHING IN TROUBLED WATERS IS WIDELY DIVERGENT SOME FEEL THAT CONTEXT OF PETROLEUM PRICE REFERENCE SUGGESTS UNHAPPINESS WITH ARAB FAILURE TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. STATEMENT CONCERNING POLITICAL PARTIES COULD REFER TO RECENTLY STEPPED-UP SOVIET PROPAGANDA IN CAR, BUT WE ARE NOT CERTAIN OF THIS EITHER.

DALE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, POLICIES, SPEECHES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BANGUI01365
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740353-0285
From: BANGUI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741259/aaaabyks.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <19 MAR 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PINT, CT, (BOKASSA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005